



***Waltham City Council
Public Works and Public Safety Committee
Minutes***

***Monday, December 3, 2018
Hoover Committee Room
City Hall, 610 Main Street
Waltham, Massachusetts***

Chairman Vidal called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Attendance:

Present: Cathynn Harris, Randy LeBlanc, Carlos Vidal, Daniel Romard, Paul Brasco

Absent: None

Harris Approval of minutes from 11/19/2018. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Chis Gamble announced that he was taping the meeting

Tabled matters:

Paving Resolution

Councillor LeBlanc moved to take the matter from the table. The motion was approved on a voice vote. Councillor Randy LeBlanc reviewed the reasoning behind his proposal including that the Council usually approves the 17-25 petitions. Councillor LeBlanc said that he thought it made sense for the approval to be an administrative process with the Consolidated Public Works (CPW) Director being the approving authority. Attorney Azadi reviewed the legality of having the CPW Director approve the petitions under the moratorium. Attorney Azadi reviewed Sections 17-25 and 17-8 of the ordinances. Councillor Randy LeBlanc asked Director Chiasson if there were any problems with having people comply with the conditions of 17-25. Councillor LeBlanc asked questions about language that would help Director Chiasson guide his decision making. Councillor Harris asked about the current state of the ordinance and what is being proposed. Attorney Azadi said the current process is run by the City Council, the proposed language would have the CPW Director be in charge of the process. Attorney Azadi said you may want to review the CPW Director's standards. Councillor Harris asked about granting the CPW Director the ability create regulations. Attorney Azadi said the council could do that. Councillor Harris asked how Director Chiasson would handle the application. Director Chiasson said the process would be the same as 17-8 process but with higher standards for repair. Councillor Harris asked questions about impact to his department of this change. Director Chiasson said there would not be a significant impact. Attorney Azadi said that the current sub section (b) of 17-25 allows the City Council to make exceptions. Attorney Azadi said that a more formalized process would be needed to allow for exceptions. Attorney Azadi does not recommend an exception/waiver process. Councillor Romard asked questions about what is required today. The Clerk and Attorney Azadi reviewed the requirements and the process. Councillor Romard asked Director Chiasson questions about the process. Councillor Romard said that better communication around this ordinance is more important than changing the ordinance. Councillor

Romard said he thinks having people come to the Council deters unneeded street openings. Councillor Romard asked about notification to Ward Councillors. Director Chiasson said he could email the Ward Councillor. Councillor Brasco said he believes that having a person come in to the City Council is inconvenient. Councillor Brasco said that he thinks that we need to be careful in adding this cost to a taxpayer. Chair Vidal asked Mr. Chiasson if he would just approve all petitions. Mr. Chiasson said the only question would be if it is only for gas since there are other options. Councillor Vidal asked Attorney Azadi about her communication dated October 12, 2018. Councillor Vidal asked about the volume of 17-25 petitions. Councillor Harris asked about having the permits posted online. Director Chiasson said that posting to the website could be more complicated than emailing the Ward Councilor. Councillor Randy LeBlanc asked about the average cost of the patches under 17-25 and 17-8. Director Chiasson said that 17-25 costs about \$10,000 and 17-8 costs about \$3,000-5,000. Councillor LeBlanc asked Attorney Azadi what the next steps would be. Councillor Randy LeBlanc moved request that the Law Department draft an ordinance that has the CPW Director issue 17-25 permits, inform the Building Department about streets under the moratorium, and language that gives the Public Works Director the ability to allow for someone to not paved curb to curb if it is on a four lane roadway. The motion was approved on a voice vote. Randy LeBlanc moved to lay the matter on the table. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Councillor Romard moved to carry items from 2018 into 2019. The motion was approved on a voice vote. Councillor Randy LeBlanc moved to take Sliver Hill Lane for the table. The motion was approved on a voice vote. Councillor LeBlanc moved to request an update on silver hill lane. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Councillor Harris moved to adjourn at 7:06 pm. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph W. Vizard
Assistant City Clerk